#4242384
ID:88078913
QL 84.2 .L35 no.266 c.3

Form 1220–5
(January 1974)

T/N 266
Filing Code 9160

Date Issued May 1975

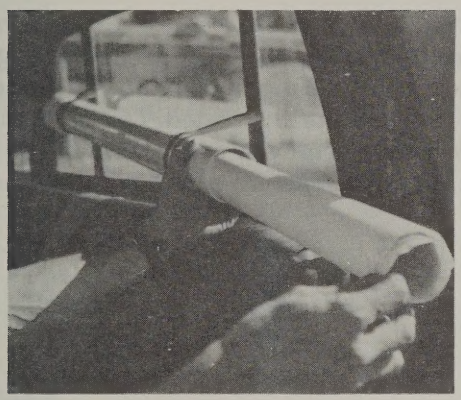
TECHNICAL NOTE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR – BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

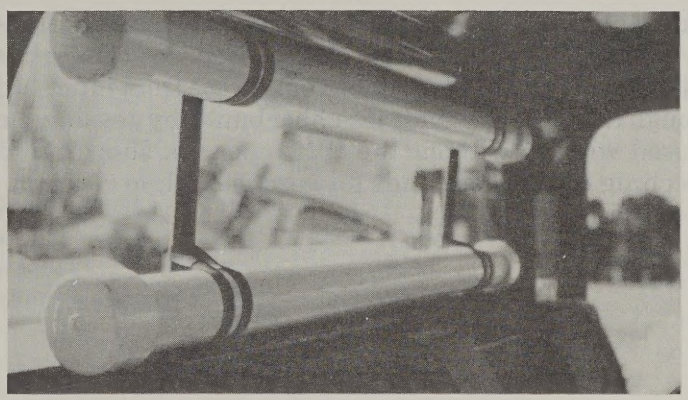
MAP CARRIER

by
Bernie Kendall
Grand Junction District Colorado

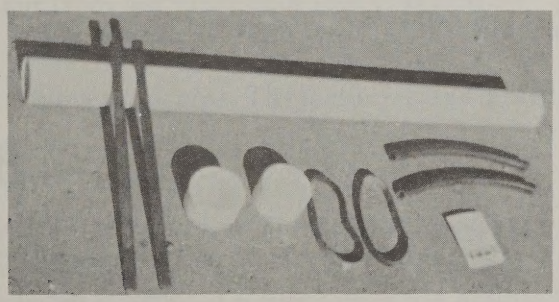
2. Proposed change (*Continued*) 05-74-4



Maps are easily removed from the case by stretching rubber band enough to pull them out the door.



You may carry as many cases on the brackets as allow good visibility out of the rear window.



Materials

3. Steps necessary to put suggestion into effect.

1. Mount the two 1/2" metal brackets vertically across the window.
2. Cover the metal with rubber tubing (discarded rubber hose split lengthwise) which helps hold tube in place and discourage rattles.
3. Have PVC pipe cut to length and mount with rubber bands cut from inner tube. It may be used with or without caps.

4. Is this suggestion in effect now? ☒ Yes ☐ No *(If "yes," where?)*

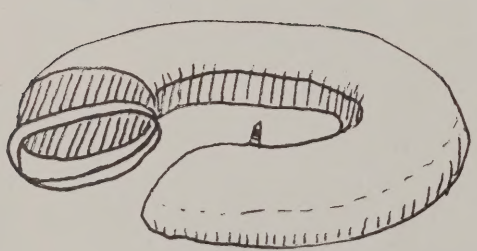
Grand Junction, Colorado BLM for 2 years.

Roll maps can be kept in good condition in field-type vehicles by keeping them in inexpensive, easy to assemble and very accessible holders constructed in the rear windows of pickups. Rubber mounting eliminates shift or rattle, but mounting one or two tubes does not obstruct visibility. The carrier is also ideal for carrying any other long, slender materials.

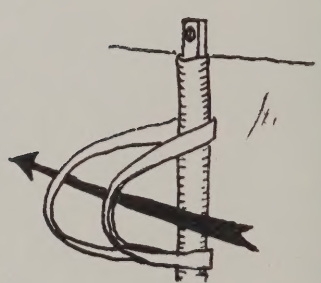
The carrier is mainly constructed of strap iron across the window (similar to a truck gun rack) and white PVC pipe held to the strap iron by rubber bands. Exact materials include:

1. Two 3/16" × 1/2" lengths of strap iron long enough to span window.
2. Four sheet metal screws to mount strap iron at either end of window.
3. Two pieces of split rubber hose to cover metal straps across window area.
4. Two rubber bands cut from old inner tube (see diagram).
5. Main container of 2½" diameter rigid white PVC waiter pipe 42" long (or any appropriate length).
6. Optional—two PVC caps to fit pipe. These discourage shifting of contents of tube and make it watertight.

Mount the two ½" metal strap brackets with sheet metal screws vertically across each side of the window. Cover the metal with rubber tubing (discarded rubber hose split lengthwise). Have PVC pipe cut to length and mount with circular rubber bands cut from inner tube (see illustration). To mount the tubes slip them through double loops made in rubber bands by passing them behind brackets, as illustrated. The tubes may be used with or without the PVC caps, as shown, and maps are easily removed or placed within by stretching the rubber bands forward enough to clear the door. The tubes themselves can also be removed for carrying very easily.



Showing how to cut circular rubber bands from old inner tube.



Mount tubes by slipping through double loops made in rubber bands by passing them behind brackets.

DO NOT DETACH BLM – 05-74-4

bureau of land management

EMPLOYEE SUGGESTION

Describe suggestion *(include information given under "Brief Description," above since that part of this form will be detached in processing).* Continue on reverse. Attach sketches, photos, or extra sheets for narrative, if needed.

1. **Present Practice:** Maps are commonly folded and placed in boxes, on seats, or in cardboard tubes carried under the seats, on top of them, or on the floor—in other words, there is no uniform or satisfactory practice of keeping maps in field-type vehicles. Fire vehicles must carry several maps, and roll maps are the hardest to keep in good condition.

2. **Proposed Change:** Map tubes made from rigid PVC plastic pipe and mounted in the rear window of a pickup or truck (see photos and specifications below) have the following advantages:
   1. Safe plastic in the case of impact with rider in vehicle.
   2. Maps are very accessible.
   3. Maps are kept in good condition, dry and unwrinkled.
   4. The carrier is inexpensive and easy to assemble.
   5. The tube is removed easily to be carried about.
   6. There is no shift or rattle despite rough roads because of rubber mounting.

Materials:

1. Two 3/16" × 1/2" lengths of strap iron long enough to span window.
2. Four sheet metal screws to mount strap iron at either end of window.
3. Two pieces of split rubber hose to cover metal straps across window area.
4. Two rubber bands cut from old inner tube (see diagram).
5. Main container of 2-1/2" diameter rigid white PVC water pipe 42" long (or any appropriate length).
6. Optional—Two PVC caps to fit pipe. These discourage shifting of contents of tube and make it watertight.

Cost: 42" of 2-1/2" diameter PVC pipe is about $1.90; each cap cost approximately $1. Other materials are available as salvage around the shop or are of very minimal cost.

Note: Tube mounted low on rear window of a truck does not abstruct visibility.

Also Note: This carrier is also ideal for carrying any other long, slender materials.

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